

**REMARKS**

After entry of the above amendments, claims 6-50 are pending in the present application, of which claims 1, 11, 16, 21, 25, 29, 35, 39, 43, 47 and 49 are independent. Claims 6, 8-11, 16, 21 and 25-28 have been amended to more clarify the claimed subject matter. Also, new claims 29-50 are added to provide additional coverage. Support for the language of the claims may be found in existing claims and in the corresponding portions of the specification.

Applicants believe that the present application is in condition for allowance, which prompt and favorable action is respectfully requested.

**I. STATUTORY TYPE DOUBLE PATENTING REJECTION**

The Examiner rejected claims 6-10 under 35 U.S.C. 101 as claiming the same invention as that of claims 1-5 of U.S. Patent No. 5,777,990 (hereinafter '990). As amended, claims 6-10 and claims of '990 are not drawn to identical subject matter because claims of '990 have means plus function elements while claims 6-10 have structural elements. Therefore, claims 6-10 and claims 1-5 of '990 are not the same invention.

The Examiner also rejected claims 25-28 under 35 U.S.C. 101 as claiming the same invention as that of claims 1-2 and 6-7 of U.S. Patent No. 6,292,476 (hereinafter '476). Also as amended, claims 25-28 and claims of '476 are not drawn to identical subject matter because claims '476 have means plus function elements while claims 25-28 have structural elements. Therefore, claims 25-28 and claims 1-2, 6-7 of '476 are not the same invention.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the double patenting rejection of claims 6-10 and 25-28.

**II. NONSTATUTORY TYPE DOUBLE PATENTING REJECTION**

Applicant notes the rejection of claims 11-24 but would prefer to defer consideration of filing a terminal disclaimer until the time at which the rejection becomes actual and final disposition of all claims is required.

**CONCLUSION**

In light of the amendments contained herein, Applicants submit that the application is in condition for allowance, for which early action is requested.

Please charge any fees or overpayments that may be due with this response to Deposit Account No. 17-0026.

Respectfully submitted,

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